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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/187,700	11/06/1998	HIROYUKI KOBAYASHI	3408.62676	3400

24978 7590 01/13/2005

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CHICAGO, IL 60606

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, MINH DIEU T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2137

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment dated July 22, 2004 with the amendment of claims 1-14 and 16-20 and the addition of new claims 21-28 has been entered.
2. Claims 14, 16-20 and 21-28 are pending.
3. The response filed on July 22, 2004 is not fully responsive to the prior Office action because it does not comply with 37 CFR 1.111(b). The reply does not explain why the newly added claims are patentable over the prior art of record. Since the submission appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to provide a complete reply to the prior Office action, applicant is given a shortened statutory period of ONE MONTH or THIRTY DAYS from the mailing date of this letter, whichever is longer, to submit a complete reply. This shortened statutory period supersedes the time period set in the prior Office action. This time period may be extended pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a). If a notice of appeal and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) were filed prior to or with the payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(r), the payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(r) by applicant is construed as a request to dismiss the appeal and to continue prosecution under 37 CFR 1.129(a). The appeal stands dismissed.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Minh Dieu Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3873. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:00-2:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell can be reached on 571-272-3868. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.

mon
mdn
12/29/04

Minh Dieu Nguyen
Examiner
Art Unit 2137

Andrew Caldwell

ANDREW CALDWELL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER